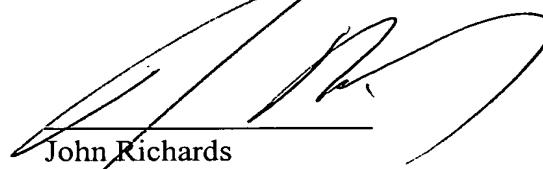


REMARKS

The above amendatory action is taken solely for the purpose of avoiding claim fees that would otherwise accrue due to the presence of multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted



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4. (Amended) An agent according to [either of claims] claim 2 [and 3] in which the linker group X is a bond.

5. (Amended) An agent according to [either of claims] claim 2 [and 3] in which the linker group is selected from an optionally substituted methylene chain, or $-(CH_2)_m-Y-(CH_2)_n-$ wherein Y is selected from -O-, -S-, -S(O)-, -SO₂-, -NH-, -Nalkyl-, -CO-, -OC(O)-, -NHC(O)-, -N(alkyl)C(O)-, -NHC(O)NH-, -NalkylC(O)NH-, NalkylC(O)Nalkyl-, -NHSO₂-, -NalkylSO₂-, -NHSO₂NH-, -NalkylSO₂NH-, -NalkylSO₂Nalkyl- and -OC(O)O-, m is 0-3 and n is 0-3.

6. (Amended) An agent according to [any one of claims] claim 2 [to 5] in which the nitric oxide synthase inhibitor moiety is selected from a group derived from an amino acid inhibitor of nitric oxide synthase a thiocitrulline derivative, an S-alkylisothiourea derivative or 2-aminopyridine derivative.